(ख) आंध्र प्रदेश उच्च न्यायालय में 1.3.1997 को 38 स्थायी/अपर न्यायाधीशों की मंजूर की गई पद संख्या में से दो पद स्थायी/अपर न्यायाधीशो के रिक्त थे।

(ग) उच्च न्यायालय में लंबित मामलों की संख्या विभिन्न जटिल कारणों से है, जिनमें न्यायाधीशों के पदों की अपर्याप्तता भी है।

(घ) समय-समय पर प्रक्रिया संबंधी विधियों को संशोधित करने के अतिरिक्त, सरकार ने विधि आयोग जैसे विशेषज्ञ निकायों की सलाह और सिफारिशों के आधार पर प्रक्रियाओं को सरल बनाने तथा मामलों को शीघ्र निपटाने के लिए अनेक उपाय किए हैं। विधि मंत्रियों, मुख्य न्यायमूर्तियों तथा न्याय प्रशासन से संबद्ध अन्य व्यक्तियों के सम्मेलन, कालिक रूप से आयोजित किए जाते हैं और ऐसे विचार विनिमय तथा परामर्शों से उद्भूत सिफारिशों और निष्कर्षों को कार्यान्वित किया जाता है और उनकी प्रगति को निकट से मानीटर किया जाता है। सरकार ऐसे सभी प्रयास कर रही है जिससे कि यह सुनिश्चित किया जा सके कि उच्च न्यायालय में पड़े रिक्त पदों को शीघ्रातिशीघ्र भरा जाए।

Foreign lawyers to represent multinationals

2551. SHRI S. MUTHU MANI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any suggestion has been received by Government to allow foreign lawyers to represent multinational clients functioning in the country; and

(b) if so, what is the view of Government and what action has been taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Judicial reform

2552. SHRI PARAG CHALIHA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have worked out any comprehensive plan of action for streamlining the judicial system of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and present status of the plan of action; and

(c) the manner in which the judicial reforms are likely to be started and implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP): (a) to (c) a proposal for the amendment of the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 and the Limitation Act, 1963 towards judicial reforms is under active consideration of the Government and a Bill in this regard may be brought soon before the Parliament.

Funds to the Bar Council of States and the Bar Council of India

2553. SHRI R. MARGABANDU: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have allotted funds to the judiciary in the plan expenditure and whether there is any proposal to allot funds to the State Bar Councils and the Bar Council of India; and

(b) if not, what steps Government would take to allot the funds to the State Bar Council and the Bar Council of India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP): (a) The Government have allotted funds to the judiciary in the plan expenditure but there is no proposal to allot funds to the State Bar Councils and the Bar Council of India.

(b) Recently, on request for financial assistance from the bar Council of India for the propose of implementing various schemes for the improvement of the quality of legal education in the country, the Government had sanctioned a one-time grant of Rs. 10 lakhs to the Council.